Hants
AC.4415 (3) HURSLEY

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL of HURSLEY.

Medical Officer of Health:

J. LOCKHART LIVINGSTON, M.D.

HURSLEY

Nr. WINCHESTER.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1924.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have to submit the following Report for the year 1924, as required by the Ministry of Health.

1. It will be seen from the appended figures that while the area of the District remains the same, the population - as estimated by the Registrar General has increased to 4754 (1923 - 4604, 1921 - 4496).

2. While the Birth-rate is only 17.24 per 1000 population (1923 - 20.63) that for England and Wales being 18.8, the Death-rate is 13.67 (1923 - 11.07), England and Wales - 12.02. The Infantile Death-rate (under one year of age) per 1000 births is 48.78 (1923 - 63.15), England and Wales - 75. There were no Deaths from Measles, Whooping-Cough or Infantile Diarrhoea (under two years). Of the more important Causes of Death, Pulmonary Tuberculosis was responsible for 6 deaths, (2 males and 4 females), 1923 - 2 deaths; Other Tuberculosis - 1 (Meningitis); 3 were males, and 4 females: Ages at death - 15 (2), 25 (1), 29 (1), 37 (2), 43 (1). Cancer (Malignant disease) was responsible for the deaths of 3 males and 6 females, and it is interesting to compare the ages of these with those from Tuberculosis, viz. 55 (1), 57 (1), 66 (1), 70 (1), 71 (1), 72 (2), 80 (1), 82 (1).

Of the 7 deaths from Tuberculosis, only one was not notified during life, and that case died in Hospital from Tubercular Meningitis of IO days' duration. Considering the difficulties of exact diagnosis, I think Notification in the District is reasonably efficient, and no action with regard to it has been called for. In addition to the I7 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year, two other names appear in the Register - cases which are believed to have been notified elsewhere.

Of the other important Causes of Death, Disease of the Heart and Arteries is responsible for the deaths of 6 males and 6 females.

3. Notifiable Diseases. There were 6 cases of Scarlet fever notified, one of which was admitted for a few weeks to Southampton Borough Infection Hospital, on payment of 3 guineas a week, and one guinea for the Ambulance: There were 2 cases at Hursley, I in Ampfield (Cramp Moor), 3 in Chandlersford: I was aged 4½ years, I - 6 years, 2 were aged 7, I - I2 and I- I9 years. No connection could be traced between any two of the cases and no association with overcrowding. All recovered.

Three cases of Diphtheria were notified, all treated at home, ages 9, I4 and 22 respectively; I in Hursley, I in Ampfield and I in Chandlersford. All recovered.

2 cases of Enteric Fever, I in Otterbourne and I in Chandlersford, one apparently contracted outside the district, and the other caused by sleeping with a boy visitor who was admitted to Hospital and found to be suffering from Enteric; both cases were admitted to Winchester Hospital where they re-

covered; ages 14 and 27

Five cases of Pneumonia were notified – 3 of whom were admitted to Hospital, and all recovered; 2 in Otterbourne (Allbrook) and 3 in Chandlersford: Ages – 2, 8, II, 32, 35.

Two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis, formerly known as Infantile Paralysis, in August, in Chandlersford, each aged 1½ years; for the resulting paralysis they were treated as Out-patients at Winchester Hospital.

The 4 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were slight, and recovered with frequent irrigation: Curiously enough three were in Hursley, and one in Chandlersford.

4. Beyond Influenza I know of no Special Causes of Sickness or Invalidity during the year.

5. Professional Nursing in the Home – (a) General (b) For Infectious Diseases. No arrangements made by the County or District Council. General: In Hursley there is a Visiting District Nurse who is also a Midwife, maintained by private generosity; and in Chandlersford, a Visiting District Nurse and Midwife provided by subscription. No Nursing provided for Infectious Cases.

Midwives. None employed or subsidised by the Council. The number practising in this District, last year, was five – one in Hursley, one in Chandlersford, one from Winchester and two from Romsey.

Clinics and Treatment Centres. None actually in the District; Child Welfare Centres in association with the County Council at Eastleigh and Romsey and Rownhams.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Winchester and Eastleigh.

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Venereal Diseases Clinic at Winchester Hospital.
Hospitals provided or subsidised. Tuberculosis County Council Sanatorium at Chandlersford with beds for 32 adults and 8 children. Maternity. Cases treated in Winchester Hospital paid for by the County Council. Children. Suitable cases admitted to Winchester Hospital, the Guardians subscribing.
Fever. Cases of Scarlet fever and Diphtheria and also Enteric admitted to Southampton Borough Infections Hospital from time to time, payment of 3 guineas per week, and 1 guinea for the Ambulance, being made. Small-pox. A small Hospital maintained by the County Council in a remote part of the Hursley District; and I believe accommodation elsewhere in the County; The County Council have undertaken the responsibility for treatment of Small-pox cases in the County.
Other. Eye cases requiring it, are treated in the Free Eye Hospital, Southampton, and at Winchester Hospital - to both of which the Guardians subscribe.

No Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children in the district.
Ambulance facilities. (a) For infectious cases. Southampton Infections Hospital Ambulance used for conveying cases there. (b) For non-infectious and accident cases. Ambulances can be hired at Winchester Hospital, and at Eastleigh and Southampton.
6. Laboratory Work. The County Council Laboratory, Winchester, examines Throat Swabs, Sputum, Blood and Urine free; also prepares Vaccines, and Analyses Drinking water and Sewage at fixed charges.

I have records of 53 Throat Swabs, of which one was Posi-

tive, i.e. Diphtheria bacillus present, and 52 Negative. I3 Specimens of Sputum were examined. Tubercle bacillus present – 3 and Not present – IO. One Specimen of Blood gave a Positive reaction for Enteric Fever. 2 Specimens of Blood sent to The Clinical Research Ass. Ltd. were both returned Negative. Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied free by the Council, also Tetanus Antitoxin for prophylactic use when necessary.

7. <u>Sanitary Administration</u> (1) <u>The Infectious Diseases (Prevention)</u>

~~(1)~~ Act was adopted in this District in I890, I believe.

(2) Revised Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops Orders in force 25 March, I9I2.

(3) Bye-laws for Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures in force since, Nov. I922.

(4) Secs. I69 and I70, Public Health Act, I875, and Secs. 29, 30, 3I Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, I890 relating to Slaughter-houses in force since I923, and Bye-laws for Slaughter-houses approved 25 Sep., I923.

(5) New Bye-laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings approved by the Ministry of Health 24 Mar., I923.

Bye-laws for Houses let in lodgings are, in my opinion, very desirable.

Tabular Summary of the work of the Sanitary Department is appended (Co. Council Table).

Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act, I875 were directed to be served in two cases of Nuisance, and both were abated. Numerous Informal Notices resulting in improvements.

The only places known where food is prepared are one in

Hursley, and one in Chandlersford where sausages are prepared, and these will be inspected.

One Slaughter-house, registered, in Hursley. Improvements in cleanliness etc. were called for and obtained.

More attention is being paid to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops, and a number have been Inspected and Reported on, and Regulations enforced. No graded Milk in this District.

From a Return made by the County Council Health Department, under the Food and Drugs Acts, 20 Samples were taken in this District during 1924, of which 18 were genuine, 2 adulterated. They were Arrowroot - 1, Butter - 4, Golden Syrup - 1, Milk - 12 (all genuine), and 2 Egg Substitute (containing no egg).

No action taken with a view to Smoke abatement.

Disinfection is carried out after every case of Scarlet fever, Diphtheria and Enteric fever, and on the death or removal of every known case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Formalin Spray is used, as a rule, combined with exposure to Formaldehyde gas. Unfortunately we have no Steam Disinfector for bedding, clothing, etc. Disinfestation when required is carried out by means of Sulphur dioxide.

8. <u>Public Health Staff.</u>

The Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, (part-time) the Sanitary Inspector who is also Surveyor (whole time), and clerical assistance is given by the Surveyor's Clerk. Part-time services of one of the County Council's Health Visitors are also available.

<u>Conditions prejudicial to health</u>. In the Autumn of 1923 the attention of the Council was drawn to the state of Baddesley

Common, where land had been sold without restriction, and many dwellings - Caravans, Sheds, Railway carriages - were being occupied without notice. More substantial structures have also been erected and occupied, without plans having been submitted, and as the only available water-supply in many cases was that from shallow wells, and Sanitary provision was of the most primitive kind, and not in accordance with the Bye-laws, much anxiety was felt as to the future of this locality.

A Sub-Committee of the Council was formed to consider and deal with the Reports submitted, and considerable improvement was effected. In one flagrant instance of evasion of Bye-laws, where a railway carriage, supported on timber blocks was dumped down on an extremely wet site, without damp-course, piers or foundations, and without proper water-supply or sanitary arrangements, proceedings were taken before the Magistrates, and the railway carriage was vacated. In another instance, where a shed, not passed for occupation, was inhabited by an old man and his wife, their daughter who soon afterwards died of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and her child of 4 years, proceedings were taken by the owner of the shed - under pressure from the Council - and the shed vacated. Much attention will be needed to prevent a recurrence of such conditions.

A few similar Structures were found in other parts of the District, and steps taken to bring them within the appropriate Bye-laws.

Three cases of Overcrowding were dealt with during the year, in two it was abated, the third was not abated until 1925 in spite of proceedings by the lamdlord at the instigation of the Council.

In this connection, I would again urge the adoption of Bye-laws for Houses let in lodgings so as to give a higher standard of Cubic Space in such cases.

The most noteworthy occurrence during the year was the decision to proceed with the sewerage of Chandlersford.

Efforts were made to induce the Southampton Borough Council to lay a water-main for the supply of part of Baddesley Common but - so far - without success.

No special action taken during the year to arouse public interest in the prevention of ill-health.

The principal Special Report during the year was the concluding instalment of the Report on Sanitary conditions of dwellings at Baddesley Common, the previous Reports having been presented in Oct., Nov., and Dec., 1923; these were summarized by the Clerk, and circulated to the members of the Baddesley Common Sub-Committee.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. The principal Workshops are the Bakehouses of which there are now three - one being a Factory Bakehouse, and the others Workshop Bakehouses; these have been inspected from time to time, and found clean and in order.

In the case of a Factory Sawmills, attention was drawn by H.M. Inspector of Factories to the absence of Sanitary provision. Representations were made to the owner, but owing to Sec. 22 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 not being in force in the District, as I understand, it rests with H.M. Inspector of Factories, and not with the Council, to enforce the provision.

Your obedient Servant

30th. May, 1925. J. LOCKHART LIVINGSTON.

APPENDIX.

I. General Statistics.

Area (acres)	I6756.
Population (I924)	4754.
Number of inhabited houses (I92I)	I078.
Number of families or separate occupiers (I92I)	I099.
Rateable Value	£4I,458.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£I55.I7.I0.

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year.

Births { Legitimate....78.(37 male, 4I female) / Illegitimate...4.(3 male, I female) } Birth Rate I7.24.

Deaths.....65.(33 male, 32 female) Death Rate I3.67.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth:-

from sepsis.....0.

from other causes..0.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per I000 births:-

Legitimate 36.58, Illegitimate I2.I9, Total 48.78.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	0.
Deaths from Cancer (3 males, 6 females)	9.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Notified,	Cases Treated. at home.	In hospital	Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
4	4	-	4	-	-	-

3. Notifiable Diseases During the Year.

Disease	Total cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small-pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	I	-
Diphtheria	3	-	-
Enteric Fever(including Paratyphoid)	2	2	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Pneumonia	5	3	-
Other diseases notifiable			
(Acute Poliomyelitis)	2	-	-
Other diseases notifiable locally	-	-	-
Totals	I8	6	0

4. Tuberculosis.

Age-Periods.	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
I								
5	I	I						
I0	I							
I5	I					I	I	
20		I						
25	4	I				2		
35	2				2	I		
45	2							
55	3							
65 and upwards								
Totals	J4	3			2	4	I	

9 Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year: (a) Total 38. (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, I9I9, I923, I924. - I2.

(I) By the Local Authority, 0. (2) By other bodies or persons I2.

I. Unfit dwelling-houses.

Inspection - (I) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 73.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations I9I0, I2.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 2.

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 4I.

2. Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fir in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 2I.

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning Act I9I9.

(I) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 8.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- by owners 8.

(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners 0.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close 0.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(I) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 6.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices - (a) by Owners. 5.

(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners 0.

C. No Proceedings under sections I7 and I8 of the Housing, Town Planning etc. Act I909.